SAM Interface/Extract Working Group (SIEWG)

SAM System for Award Management | **GSA**

SIEWG Meeting Minutes
February 19, 2014

Agenda

- Password reset follow up
- SAM legacy environment sunset
- Web Services tutorial
- Known issue review
- POC update
- Average # of Employees = 0
- Open questions

Password reset follow up

- Password resets on ~400 accounts with system data access roles extended to February 28, 2014
- CCB asked to make resetting system passwords a priority
- Please update your SAM passwords on your system accounts by February 28 [th]

   If none of the original POCs are still with your program and you need to update the account information, contact the Federal Service Desk (www.fsd.gov). State you are a system account user in SAM and request escalation to Tier 2 Technical support.
   - You must provide the following information from your current system account:
   - SAM System Account User Name, e.g. sammycwsprod25
   - Previous System POC(s) First Name / Last Name / E-mail Address
   - Along with one of the following pieces of information from your current system account:
   - System Name, e.g. My Contract Writing System
   - System Account E-mail Address, e.g. mycws@myagency.gov

   If the information you provide matches what is in your System Profile, Tier 2 Technical will update your System Account Email Address. They will then send a password reset e-mail to the new System Account E-mail Address. You must click the link, change your password, and log into SAM. We then recommend you update your POC information to add three System POCs to ensure future continuity of operations.

   If you cannot provide the validation information above, you will have to create a new Data Access Request and go through the complete approval process.

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Questions/Comments:
None.

SAM legacy environment sunset

Reminder: SAM legacy extracts and interfaces are scheduled to sunset as of August 1st, 2014

Questions / Comments

None.

Web Services Tutorial

Summary: SAM web services were designed to expose its functionality to customer applications and to improve data transparency. The goal of the Web Service tutorial is to make them easy to consume. We have structured the tutorial to save time and efforts for client application developers, testers and business users. We have provided a detail description of the testing methodology along with the tools we recommend for web service testing. About 70% of the tutorial are request examples ready for "cut-and-paste" to client applications. We expect the tutorial to be helpful for web application developers and testers, but we encourage business users to review it as well.

- SAM Web Services tutorial for Entity Management
    - Entity Management Search
    - Entity Management Request Data
    - Entity Management Response
        - Status keys
        - Lists
        - Tutorial will be posted on Interact
- We are working out the details on access to our test environment.
    - Process details coming very soon, within the next week or so

Questions / Comments

Known Issues

- 10483 – Issues with Last Update Date in to-be SAM Extracts

- 10482 – Not all NAICS Exceptions being populated for a subset of records

- 10403 – Country Code Format Inconsistency in to-be SAM Web Services

- 10400 – to-be SAM Extract Monthly MPIN file logic bug

- 10166 – to-be SAM Web Service NAICS Exception information not parsing correctly

- 9337 – Create further tutorial documentation for to-be SAM Web Services

- SAM Public File still not being created due to GSA/D&B discussion

Points of Contact (POCs) Update

- Background: when CCR, ORCA and FedReg data was migrated to SAM, the consolidation of the POC data from those systems was vetted and mapped into SAM.

- We will be sending out the POC mapping information within a week.

Average # of Employees

- March release of SAM.gov includes clarification on the Average Number of Employees field.
- A value of "0" (zero) is allowed in the Average Number of Employees on sam.gov
  - This is not a new requirement or change, just a clarification of the FAR.
- The specification for extracts and web services remains unchanged as a numeric value.
  - There should be no impact to your downstream systems

Chat

Question (Laura M): Can we document how to access the three different levels for testing?

IAE Response: This will be covered in the documentation of our test environment and the process for getting ids.

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Question: Question on the Legacy Complete file and what that is in the new (TOBE) environment. The legacy complete file is equivalent to the new Sensitive file for monthly and daily files.

IAE Response:

Question: Request for GSA to provide a monthly file on Aug1 to support the conversion to the TOBE environment. GSA will put that on the list for implementation to support the migration to the to be environment.

Question: Ron Candrea/MITRE for VA VEMS 2:what is the url for the SAM interact site

 IAE Response: Pamela Miller 2:https://interact.gsa.gov

Question: Jackson Kantruss: If you already have access to the test site, is it currently configured to test the 5.0 web services? Or do we need to wait a week?

IAE Response: If you already have access to the test site there is no need to wait until the process comes out next week.

Question: Jason Dowd: The current v5.0 extract files listed on the SIEWG site are from Aug 2013. There were some posts on the working group site around early August 2013 about the Valid Business Type Strings for V2 - Grants and VW -Contracts and Grants. According to the post these were still valid but are not listed in the current SAM To-Be String Clarifications for the v5.0 file layouts. Is an updated version for the file layout going to be offered with these changes?

IAE Response: We have added these updates you pointed out to the list. Also, if you happen to identify any changes or updates that need to be made in the documentation, please let us know.
Please send any updates you have to Pam.

Question: Laura M: Is there an update on the UTF-8 conversions and whether the CCB agreed to having you all provide both ASCII and UTF-8 formats available?

IAE Response: The IAE team is planning on maintaining two versions of the SAM extracts, one in UTF-8 and the other in ASCII. The IAE team is currently planning the implementation of this into our environment.

Question: Gregg Rovinsky: Will the FED REG extracts be sunsetting as well on August 1st, and if so is there a document about how this will be incorporated into the SAM extract or is that forthcoming in that POC documentation.

Yes, the FedReg extract will also be sunset in August. All of the data elements from the FedReg extract are reflected in the to-be SAM Entity Management Extracts and Web Services. If you look at the column "Mandatory" in the extract mapping documents, the FedReg specific data elements (ie data elements that are

only to be filled out by legacy FedReg registrations) are the columns that are marked as Mandatory or Optional for IGT Registrations.

Question: Jerry Kubiliu: We still don't have access to the data we need on the sFTP site. Mary O'Toole verified that we should have sensitive data access and she corrected an error on the account stating that we should be good to go. However, our sftp privileges with the account do not allow us access to the sensitive folder.

IAE Response: Pam has the message that Jerry left on the phone. Pam will call Jerry back to resolve this issue.

Question: Doug Cook: Is there a chance that the CCB won't agree with the recommendations to provide extract files in both ASCII and UTF-8 formats and only UTF-8 format would become available?

IAE Response: We don't anticipate any objection from the CCB as this effort most likely will not require additional funding.

Question: Gregg Rovinsky: In regards to sunsetting; will there be a Monthly file available to start the SAM extracts or will we need to wait for the First Sunday in August which isn't until August 3rd meaning that there will be SAM daily files for August 1st and 2nd for those who have to convert at the end.

IAE Response: We can accommodate this for a smooth transition. This will allow for one final week of regularly scheduled daily files (the last one being produced would be the Saturday August 2 daily file) as well as one last monthly file (the regular August 3 monthly file). Then after these files, no more legacy extracts will be created. The first file that will be exclusively in the to-be SAM Extract format will be the August 5 daily file however, we will keep the same date, August 1st, 2014 as the sunset date to avoid confusion.

Question: Laura M: when you release the next update of the mapping documentation, can you include a change document history so it's clear which changes were made, etc.

IAE Response: We will add the change history to the next revision.